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Letter dated 14 April 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to submit hereby a letter dated 13 April 2016 to the Secretary-General on the subject of Security Council resolution 2279 (2016) on the situation in Burundi (see annex), for circulation as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Albert **Shingiro**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 14 April 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter of 7 April 2016 regarding Security Council resolution 2279 (2016), I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Burundi has taken careful note of resolution 2279 (2016), adopted by the Council at its 7664th meeting on 1 April 2016, which complements resolution 2248 (2015) of 12 November 2015.

We take this opportunity to acknowledge the invaluable efforts undertaken by the United Nations, and yourself in particular, in support of lasting peace and stability in Burundi.

We wish once again to thank the Security Council for its commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Burundi, even as it rightly stresses that the Burundian Government bears the primary responsibility for ensuring security in its territory and protecting its population. We are confident, Sir, that we can count on your commitment to addressing the challenges that Burundi is facing.

We also welcome the positive role played by your Special Adviser, Mr. Jamal Benomar, and his team, who remain actively involved in the ongoing peace process. In that regard, and in the spirit of paragraph 10 of Security Council resolution 2279 (2016), in which you are requested to present, in consultation with the Government of Burundi, options for the deployment of a United Nations police contribution in Burundi, we would like to take this opportunity to share with you the position of the Burundian Government with regard to the value that this contribution is expected to add, in the promotion of human rights and the rule of law, by helping the Burundi police with expertise and equipment.

We reiterate that the Government of the Republic of Burundi is prepared to receive in its territory some 20 unarmed police experts who will provide their expertise to the Burundi national police, working as part of the team of your Special Adviser, which is already on site.

We should also like to recall that the Government of Burundi and the African Union high-level delegation have jointly agreed to deploy 200 human rights observers and unarmed military personnel of the African Union in Burundi. This happened at a time when the international community, out of increasing concern, had planned a significant presence of Blue Helmets in Burundi; however, it has since been confirmed that these decisions were taken on the basis of false allegations. The individuals who had been committing heinous crimes, murdering people and throwing corpses onto the streets in order to attract the attention of the international community have been subdued and defeated. Some of them have chosen to surrender and tell the truth about these killing machines' motives, sponsors, and places of recruitment and training.

It should be remembered that Burundi has worked closely with the United Nations since achieving independence in 1962 with the invaluable support of the Organization. The Government of Burundi will continue to cooperate constructively with the United Nations and its teams in Bujumbura. We must work more closely in

a spirit of openness to consolidate democratic culture, peace and stability in our country and the region with a view to securing a better and more stable future for our country. To that end, we reiterate our firm commitment to cooperating with your Special Adviser and his team, expanded to include the 20 or so unarmed police experts from the United Nations.

We should nevertheless like to request support from the United Nations in the area of logistics and, in particular, capacity-building, in order to fill knowledge gaps and enable the Burundi national police to fulfil its missions of maintaining order and protecting the population. In that connection, we have identified the following priority areas for action:

1. **Disarming civilians:**

(a) Provide the Burundian National Standing Commission for the fight against the proliferation of small arms and light weapons with appropriate equipment for:

– Remote detection of arms, ammunition, grenades, explosives, etc.;

– Safe storage of recovered arms and devices;

– Destruction of recovered arms and devices;

– Tracing arms, ammunition, grenades and explosives;

– Demining;

– Marking Government-owned weapons;

– Establishing and managing a database on armed violence;

(b) Provide capacity-building for personnel responsible for using the equipment.

2. **Criminal police:**

(a) Technical support for the divisions of the criminal police force:

– Provide equipment for and modernize the various sections of the technical and scientific laboratory;

– Provide software for managing criminal records;

– Provide technical support for the National Central Bureau to combat gender-based violence and establish one-stop centres in provincial police stations;

– Build custody facilities that are in line with human rights standards;

– Provide support for decentralizing technical facilities within provincial police stations;

(b) Provide capacity-building for staff responsible for operating the equipment and managing the modernized facilities;

(c) Provide capacity-building for criminal police officers.

3. **Combating terrorism:**

(a) Provide training and equipment for two specialized counter-terrorism units;

(b) Provide support for the establishment of the counter-terrorism operations centre;

(c) Provide support for organizing training and simulation exercises in collaboration with domestic actors and regional partners;

(d) Provide technical support to immigration police for monitoring cross-border movements;

(e) Provide capacity-building for personnel responsible for operating the equipment and managing the modernized facilities.

4. **Establishment of multifunctional operations centres (police surveillance, event management, monitoring of large-scale activities, etc.):**

(a) Set up and provide equipment for operations centres at the national, regional, provincial and municipal levels;

(b) Provide capacity-building for those staffing the operations centres and managing equipment.

5. **Civil defence:**

(a) Build a school of excellence in the area of civil defence;

(b) Provide technical support for departments responsible for prevention and emergency services by supplying firefighting vehicles and other emergency resources, including fireboats and firefighting aircraft, ambulances, etc.

(c) Provide support for the establishment of municipal platforms for risk prevention and disaster management;

(d) Establish an emergency operations centre;

(e) Provide equipment for analysing, collecting and archiving data on the impact of disasters;

(f) Provide firefighting equipment for firefighters;

(g) Provide capacity-building for civil defence personnel and platforms for risk prevention and disaster management.

6. **Training support for peacekeeping:**

(a) Provide support for construction and facilities for a centre of excellence for peacekeeping training conforming to United Nations standards;

(b) Provide capacity-building for the trainers and managers of the centre of excellence for peacekeeping.

7. **Support for the establishment of a marine unit:**

Provide training and equipment for a marine unit within the Burundi national police.

8. **Support for the establishment of community policing:**

(a) Provide capacity-building and equipment for community policing mechanisms;

(b) Construction or renovation and equipment for front-line facilities (municipal police stations);

(c) Construction or renovation and equipment for front-line facilities (provincial police stations);

(d) Provide equipment for regional police stations and headquarters;

(e) Provide support for the establishment of community policing structures in provincial and municipal police stations.

9. **Provide support for human resources management (overseeing police well-being, discipline, staffing, leave, etc.):**

(a) Install human resources and career management software;

(b) Assistance with providing police officers and support personnel with staff identification cards;

(c) Support for the statistics system;

(d) Training for users of equipment.

10. **Support for the modernization of operational communications systems:**

(a) Provide equipment for the communications workshop;

(b) Establish and provide equipment for radio transmission centres in regional, provincial and municipal police stations, including at the level of deputy police chiefs in the border police (Police de l'Air, des Frontières et des Etrangers) and community police;

(c) Provide equipment for operationa! communications (modern portable two-way radios and related accessories, landline and mobile telephones, etc.);

(d) Provide technical support for combating cybercrime;

(e) Provide training for users of equipment and communications personnel.

11. **Mobility support for operational units:**

(a) Install software for managing vehicles owned by the Burundi National Police;

(b) Provide support for ground mobility resources for operational units;

(c) Provide support for marine mobility resources for the marine unit;

(d) Equipment for and expansion of the Burundi national police garage;

(e) Provide training for users of equipment and drivers.

12. **Support for the renovation and protection of detention centres:**

(a) Renovation and enhancement of security in prisons;

(b) Renovation of offices and living quarters of penitentiary police personnel;

(c) Install surveillance and fire prevention equipment;

(d) Provide support for mobility resources for prisons and penitentiary police;

(e) Provide training for users of equipment and prison security personnel.

13. **Support for the reintegration of demobilized or retired police officers:**

(a) Establishment of a vocational training programme for retired and demobilized police officers;

(b) Training and budgetary support for the reintegration of retired and demobilized police officers;

(c) Financing for projects to reintegrate retired and demobilized police officers;

(d) Build housing for discharged disabled persons.

We thank you once again for your personal commitment to the consolidation of peace and democratic culture in our country, the region and the world.

(*Signed*) Albert **Shingiro**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations